

# Marijuana Harmless? **Think Again**

[www.marijuanaharmlessthinkagain.org](http://www.marijuanaharmlessthinkagain.org)

**PRESS RELEASE**  
September 24, 2014

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## *Arizona Group Says Big Marijuana in Arizona is a Big Mistake*

*Suffolk University/USA Today poll finds support for legalization  
plummets 17% among Colorado voters*

PRESCOTT VALLEY- When Arizona voters narrowly approved a medical-pot bill in 2010, they were promised that it was just about "medicine." Now, less than four years later, the Marijuana Policy Project has broken that promise. News broke last week that the Marijuana Policy Project, a group located in Washington D.C., filed paperwork with state elections officials to campaign for the legalization of the drug for recreation in Arizona.

This news comes on the heels of the release last week of a Suffolk University/*USA Today* poll that finds the popularity of legal pot waning. Only 46% of likely voters today support Colorado's constitutional amendment legalizing and commercializing marijuana. 50% of likely voters oppose the measure entirely.

"We have always believed that when the voters understand that marijuana is not harmless, and that its legalization comes with significant public health costs of increased addiction, poor school performance, and loss of workforce productivity, they will not support the legalization of marijuana for recreational use," said Merilee Fowler, Executive Director of MATFORCE.

According to, Shelly Mowrey, Director of Prevention Works AZ, "Legalization means commercialization – big business, big bucks and even bigger problems. This is an industry whose only for-profit motive is to hook new, young users. Kids who start using marijuana at a young age while their brains are developing are at significant risk of addiction and impaired brain functioning."

Colorado voters voted for legalization with the lure of increased tax revenue and the promise the drug would stay out of the hands of their youth. But in reality, tax revenue is falling far short of what was anticipated, and Colorado's kids are using pot at a rate that is 39% higher

than the national average. Big Marijuana in Colorado has created a massive industry that sells candy, chocolate, and other kid-friendly marijuana items. This has led to a rise in poison center calls and emergency room admissions.

“It appears voters are paying attention to the failed marijuana experiment playing out in Colorado,” said Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney and member of the *Marijuana Harmless? Think Again!* coalition. “I believe that Arizona will soundly reject the efforts of out-of-state dark money groups to use our children as lab rats in the legalization movement.”

On Tuesday, November 18, *Marijuana Harmless? Think Again!* will host a conference: “Marijuana: The Science and the Experiment” in Phoenix. Keynote speaker Tom Gorman, Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, will share details of the experiment taking place in Colorado with the legalization of marijuana. For more information and to register for this conference, go to [MarijuanaHarmlessThinkAgain.org](http://MarijuanaHarmlessThinkAgain.org).

***About Marijuana Harmless? Think Again!***

*Marijuana Harmless? Think Again!* is a nonpartisan alliance of concerned citizens, business professionals and community leaders who are committed to raising awareness about the harms of marijuana. Marijuana is an addictive substance that affects the brain, especially in kids, in ways that impair intelligence, reasoning, judgment and clarity of thought. The legalization of marijuana in Arizona would result in an additional 32,000 high school students being more likely to use the drug putting them at risk in school and in life.